

REMARKS

No claim is allowed. Claims 8-12 and 22-24 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Diamond (WO 98/21233). This rejection is obviated by the cancellation of claims 1 and 2 without prejudice.

Claims 2, 7, 8 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Yamagata (EP 821003). This rejection is also obviated by the cancellation of claim 2 without prejudice.

New independent claim 22 is not subject to the prior art rejections because it corresponds to canceled claim 2(v) and is drawn to a multichain peptide oligomer/polymer conjugate which cannot be considered to be anticipated by Diamond or Yamagata.

New claims 23-24 and claims 8-12, as now amended, all ultimately depend from new claim 22. Accordingly, the dependent claims also cannot be anticipated by Diamond or Yamagata.

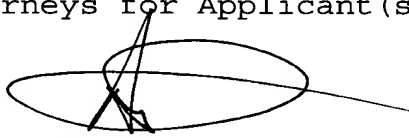
In re of Appln. No. 09/743,225

In view of the above, the claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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